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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising a substrate and a nanoconduit material coupled to a surface of the substrate, wherein the substrate includes silicon nitride and defines an aperture and the nanoconduit material defines a nanoconduit that is i) contiguous with the aperture and ii) aligned substantially non-parallel to a plane defined by the surface of the substrate.

21. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising a substrate and a nanoconduit material coupled to a surface of the substrate, wherein the substrate defines an aperture and wherein the nanoconduit material includes SiO_2 and defines a nanoconduit that is i) contiguous with the aperture and ii) aligned substantially non-parallel to a plane defined by the surface of the substrate.

22-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising a substrate and a nanoconduit material coupled to a surface of the substrate, wherein the substrate defines an aperture and the nanoconduit material defines a nanoconduit that is i) contiguous with the aperture and ii) aligned substantially non-parallel to a plane defined by the surface of the substrate. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the nanoconduit includes a tubular nanostructure.